

VOTERS GUIDE
FOR THE
August 2, 2022
PRIMARY ELECTION

**Boone County Presiding Commissioners –
Republican Candidates**

**Boone County Recorder of Deeds – Democratic
Candidates**

**Associate Circuit Judge, Division X –
Democratic Candidates**

**MO State Representative, District 47 –
Democratic Candidates**

Columbia City Council Ward 3 Candidates

League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County

lwvcbc@gmail.com, <http://lwvcbc.org/>

Republican Candidate for Presiding Bo. Co. Commissioner – Connie Leipard

Name: Connie Leipard

Highest post-secondary education:

Construction industry technical training received through Maplewood Community College – OSHA 10 & 30-Hour Construction Trainer; Construction Industry Technician – NAWIC Education Foundation.

Website: www.connieforboonecounty.com

What are your qualifications for this office?

I have been a citizen of Boone County since childhood; graduate of Hickman High School, a business owner in the construction industry for more than 40 years with a skill set that includes interpreting plans, specifications, contract documents. A strong practice of fiscal management that drives our business and a working knowledge of zoning laws and building codes.

I am an active citizen in Boone County with an extensive community volunteer service record. Local boards I currently serve include

- Boone County Children's Services Board,
- Central Missouri Subcontracting Enterprises (CMSE)/Giving Gardens
- The Builders' Association Central Region Director
- National Parliamentarian for the National Association of Women in Construction, multiple workforce development committees on the local, regional, and national level.

Serving as the national president (2016-2017) of the National Association of Women in Construction, I received top-notch national training in board and commission legal and fiduciary responsibilities, strategic planning, and organizational management.

What are your top three priorities and how would you implement or accomplish your priorities?

1. Quality economic development is critical to upward mobility for citizens of Boone County
2. Improve infrastructure including county roads and broadband expansion.
3. Public Safety is high on the list of concerns from citizens groups within Boone County.

My plan for all three top priorities includes collaborating with key stakeholders in order to strategically allocate resources for improvement.

What would you do specifically to strengthen collaboration between Boone County and the cities in Boone County in the governance of our communities?

Being present for citizen groups within the county is imperative to know what is on the heart and minds of people. Collaboration begins with understanding issues and concerns that require attention. Collaboration grows with open-minded effective communication to bring key stakeholders together to engage in critical thinking, planning, and implementing a path forward with measurable outcomes.

Republican Candidate for Presiding Bo. Co. Commissioner – James Pounds

Name: James Pounds

Highest post-secondary education: Associate Degree in Aircraft Maintenance

Website: none

What are your qualifications for this office?

I'm self employed and have been since 1996. I have worked on projects with the City of Columbia, Boone County, State of Missouri, and the United States Government as a contractor and vendor. This has given me great insight to how to work with different levels of government. I have been a member of the Boone County Building Code Commission from 2002-2019. I understand why there isn't any affordable housing in Boone County and the City of Columbia.

What are your top three priorities and how would you implement or accomplish your priorities?

My top 3 priorities would be affordable housing, county roads, and working to lower the tax burden on Boone County taxpayers.

What would you do specifically to strengthen collaboration between Boone County and the cities in Boone County in the governance of our communities?

Democratic Candidate for Boone County Recorder of Deeds – Shannon Martin

Name: Shannon Martin

Highest post-secondary education: Associates Degree

Website: shannonforrecorder.com

What is your experience for this job? I currently work in the Recorder's Office. I have been sworn in as a Deputy Recorder since 2018. I have detailed knowledge of how the recorder's office operates and how much value that office holds to the people of Boone County.

I am currently responsible for the daily departmental deposit, accounts receivables, attaching federal and state tax liens to property, processing documents received by mail and electronic recordings. I also issue marriage licenses to couples of Boone County, as well as the certified copy of marriage license necessary for Real ID compliance.

I record plats and surveys brought in for recording, and am knowledgeable of using a large scale printer in making copies of the large documents.

I answer the incoming phone lines and assist customers with questions regarding title work, and filing requirements. I work every day under the most valued employee at the Recorder's Office. I have been trained by the very best. I continue to learn new aspects of the Recorder's Office every day.

What would you like to see improved in this office to better serve the public?

I believe that the Recorder's Office is exceptional. We are 100% there for the public. I have implemented a mapping system to allow for easier location of specific documents. (Plats, surveys, older Deeds of Trusts). We answer every phone call without automation. We greet every customer in person. We take the necessary time with every customer to make sure their needs are addressed. We continue every day adding more and more older documents to the database.

We just went through a safety renovation that now includes permanent safety glass and ballistic boards as necessary upgrades for protection.

We are currently receiving new computer monitors to assist with reading the old documents.

How are records in this office protected?

I took this question a couple of different ways. Generally speaking, we no longer keep original documents in the office. We scan all originals and return to the party that brought them to us. Therefore, that protection is simply not having originals anymore.

In referring to the past documents, they are stored in the vault area of the recorder's Office. Those records are fire protected and humidity controlled with sensors and alerts.

On a third note, the only documents that are "protected" from public view are those under the "Safe at Home" procedures.

Democratic Candidate for Boone County Recorder of Deeds – Bob Nolte

Name: Bob Nolte

Highest post-secondary education: Master of Education in Administration (USC), Graduate Certificate in Educational Leadership (MU), Bachelor of Arts in History (Binghamton)

Website: www.BobNolte.com

- **What is your experience for this job?**

Boone County's citizens trust the Recorder's office to record, index, and preserve real estate and land transactions, as well as tax liens, marriage licenses, and U.S. military discharge documents. All of us want our tax dollars used wisely, and deserve to receive great customer service when interacting with the county government – whether we are celebrating a personal milestone like getting married or purchasing a new home, working with the Recorder as part of business operations, or doing research with historical records. I am a seasoned administrator who understands that team leadership requires teamwork, and am running to be Recorder to continue the long history of Democrats effectively managing the professional departments of the county. For nearly a decade at Mizzou Athletics, I worked with student-athletes, coaches, regulators, vendors, and other university administrators. As Director of Compliance, I interpreted complex NCAA and university regulations, built strong relationships with a diverse group of stakeholders, developed policies and procedures to ensure requirements were met, and implemented new technologies to increase efficiency. Additionally, I served for six years as the treasurer for the City of Columbia New Century Fund, a non-profit that provides funding for projects to improve the lives of Columbia residents. I have a passion for service, and have also been a longtime community volunteer: as a little league umpire and youth basketball coach, and with many Democratic candidates for office, like Martha Stevens, Michela Skelton, and Judy Baker.

- **What would you like to see improved in this office to better serve the public?**

The Recorder of Deeds office currently has a staff of six, a one half-million dollar operating budget, and a record preservation fund. I'm ready to work shoulder-to-shoulder with my team and lead the Recorder of Deeds office in providing: Excellent customer service for Boone County residents, businesses, and other government offices; efficient and reliable record-keeping with updates to technologies and internal processes where we need them most; and straightforward, secure access to information and documents. What changes help staff, citizens, vendors, and partner organizations the most? For example, within the bounds of Missouri statute, I would implement specific processes for citizens to request certain types of documents online, like marriage licenses. By getting all required information to the Recorder beforehand, the process of signing in the office will be quicker for both the citizens and the staff. This is a low-cost change that will benefit everyone, and the kind of improvement I will prioritize when elected.

- **How are records in this office protected?**

Records are protected through redundancy and digitalization in secure physical and digital environments to ensure long-term preservation for legal and historical review. Physical records dating back to the 19th century are kept in the Recorder's office in the climate-controlled vault. Essential records have also been scanned onto microfilm, and there are copies stored in two separate locations (in different states!) in the event of a fire or natural disaster; post-1960 documents have also been digitized. As the office has moved to digital recording practices, so too have the methods of protection. The Recorder's office automatically backs up every document across many servers spread throughout the world so you can always access your information online while being assured your records are safe from malicious act.

Democratic Candidate for Boone County Recorder of Deeds – Nick Knoth

Name: Nick Knoth

Website: NickKnoth.com

Highest post-secondary education: Bachelor's degrees in Political Science and History, as well as certificates in Multicultural Studies and American Constitutional Democracy.

What is your experience for this job?

I spent my career working in and around government at all levels: Congress, our state legislature, and, most recently, working directly with most of the municipalities in Boone County and county government itself. I've served on several government commissions and task forces, ranging from the City of Columbia's Housing and Community Development Commission to the University's Extension Council for Boone County and the Board of Representatives for Boone County's Family Access Center of Excellence (FACE). I am also a licensed realtor and notary.

At its core, the Recorder's role is about government administration, which requires not only an expertise in the internal work of the office, but also a keen understanding of its external role in the larger dynamic of local government and our communities. I mention that I am a licensed realtor as about 90% of the work of the office revolves around the documentation, preservation, and servicing of real estate transactions. As such, a combination of governmental expertise and real estate experience is ideal for the Recorder of Deeds.

What would you like to see improved in this office to better serve the public?

My priorities for the Recorder's office are twofold: equitable access and modern processes. Modern processes means embracing technology, whether that be prioritizing the digitization of records, making additional services available online, or simply using new systems internally - a priority every Recorder should have.

Equitable access is my number one priority. The office and the services it provides are only available in its downtown Columbia location. For a county that is around 700 square miles and is home to almost 200,000 people, this is neither accessible nor equitable. I would like to follow the lead of our county clerk and county collector in periodically going to the people wherever we're needed, to provide an opportunity for citizens to conveniently use the services they pay for.

Similarly, I would like to expand the hours of the office. Monday through Friday, 8am-5pm is far from accessible and equitable no matter where you live. I think of my single mother, raising three children – using the services of the Recorder's office would have been nearly impossible for her. I not only want to expand its weekday hours, but also add hours on Saturdays in order to be more inclusive to our citizens.

How are records in this office protected?

The majority of records have been digitized, which enables a backup file to be held off site at a facility in Kansas City. Similarly, once microfilm of all records (including those yet to be digitized) has been produced, one copy is kept locally and two others are sent to two separate and undisclosed locations. On site, records are stored in the office's vault, which has state-of-the-art safety measures that should stop a fire or flood from destroying documents. The front line of protection is the well-trained staff of the Recorder's office, who not only must safely handle documents but also ensure their security while still making them accessible to members of the public.

Democratic Candidate for Associate Circuit Judge, Division X – Angela Peterson

Name: Angela L. Peterson

Highest post-secondary education: I have three degrees, all from the University of Missouri-Columbia: Bachelor of Science in Accountancy (1994); Master of Accountancy (1996); Juris Doctor (1999).

Website: www.AngelaPetersonForJudge.com

Why do you want to be a judge? I am passionate about ensuring fairness in the justice system for all litigants. I have dedicated the bulk of my career to leveling the playing field by working at a not-for-profit corporation providing free legal services to low-income and vulnerable citizens. I have been appointed by the Missouri Supreme Court to serve on the Committee for Access to Family Courts, which is charged with improving access to family court division cases, especially for people who do not have an attorney. I am also honored to be the recipient of the 2021 Outstanding Service Award, which is presented by the Boone County Bar Association to a member who has made significant contributions to the benefit of the legal profession, the justice system, and/or our community. After over two decades in court as an attorney, I am ready to bring my experience and demonstrated commitment to fairness and public service to the bench as Boone County Associate Circuit Judge, Division 10.

What are your life experiences that will prepare you to understand the people who come before your court? At this point in my career, my life experience is interwoven with my professional experience. As an attorney, I have met one-on-one with people of varying beliefs and backgrounds who have shared their intimate stories with me. They depend upon me to protect the rights that are most precious to them, and I recognize the gravity of that responsibility. On thousands of occasions, I am standing beside people as they encounter the court system. As an attorney, I make a conscious decision every day to remember that although I am in the courtroom on a regular basis, for litigants it is often an unfamiliar and stressful place; as a judge, I will continue to do that.

What experience have you had as an attorney in civil and criminal cases before the court? I have been a litigator for nearly 22 years. I have appeared before over 50 judges throughout mid-Missouri and I have appeared on countless dockets. I have extensive trial court experience, including trials lasting several days and involving multiple attorneys, experts, and other witnesses. I have also handled some cases at the appellate level. In addition to handling my own caseload, from 2010 through early 2022, I served as Litigation Director for Mid-Missouri Legal Services Corporation. In that role, I was second-in-command of the organization and I supervised many attorneys handling various types of civil cases, including housing, consumer, access to benefits and expungement cases. Additionally, I have supervised law students in court as part of the University of Missouri's Family Violence Clinic.

While my primary practice has been civil cases, particularly family law cases, because of their nature, I am familiar with nearly all substantive areas of the law. I have had many clients or opposing parties or other people somehow involved in the litigation, who have criminal or other civil cases pending which have a direct impact on their family law case. It is my duty to review pleadings and other documents in those other cases, understand the law and issues involved in those other cases, and sometimes attend depositions or hearings and communicate with the attorneys providing representation in those other cases.

Democratic Candidate for Associate Circuit Judge, Division X – Kayla Jackson-Williams

Name: Kayla Jackson-Williams

Highest post-secondary education: Juris Doctor – University of Missouri School of Law

Website: kaylaforjudge.com

Why do you want to be a judge?

I believe our Courthouse needs a judge with a diverse background who can offer a fresh perspective and serve as a bridge between generations when it comes cultural and societal understanding in conjunction with our judicial system. With a background in family, criminal, and civil litigation, I have developed relationships with individuals in our community who are from all walks of life. Through these relationships, I have learned to effectively provide a voice to individuals who often felt overlooked, unheard, and ignored. Showing clients that I care, allowing them to have a voice, and breaking down walls that are often built because of one's circumstances, has proven to be a special skill that I have honed that most cannot say they have. I believe this will translate well on the bench, and it is something our system needs.

What are your life experiences that will prepare you to understand the people who come before your court?

Growing up, my brother and I were raised by our mom, Rebecca, who served as a social worker, assisting children with behavioral issues. Because she was a single parent, there were often times when we did not have much, and we relied on the assistance of local programs and organizations to make ends meet. I know and understand what I feels like to go without basic needs such as clothing that fits, food to eat, and electricity to light our home. Although I am no longer plagued by these circumstances, as a single parent myself, I understand what it feels like when a parent is frustrated because "they just want to figure things out." I can also identify with and understand who are in those circumstances that I found myself in as a child and empathize with them in ways that others cannot. For these reasons, I continue to volunteer with organizations like those that helped me as a child, and it is why I chose to serve as a Public Defender in this community and aided those who needed help the most.

What experience have you had as an attorney in civil and criminal cases before the court?

As a former Public Defender, I have appeared before every judge in this circuit while providing representation to hundreds of indigent clients. This representation included arguing for reasonable bonds, conducting preliminary hearings, negotiating favorable plea deals, and advocating for clients during felony jury trials and probation violation hearings. As a Public Defender, I also conducted legal research for use in various motions for purposes of maintaining and/or restoring a client's rights guaranteed to them by the U.S. and Missouri Constitutions.

In civil litigation, before entering the courtroom, I am always tasked with first knowing and understanding how the Missouri Rules of Civil Procedures and Missouri Case Law apply to a specific case before the court (construction defect, negligence, breach of contract, fraud, etc.). This includes knowing how claims are brought by a party, the deadlines for substantive motions, and responding to pleadings and discovery. Using these rules, as well as what elements must be presented to the Court and proven, as determined by legal precedents set by the Missouri Appellate and Supreme Courts, I have prepared motions and arguments for courts across the state to aid the judge in fact finding process.

Democratic Candidate for MO State Representative, District 47 - Adrian Plank

Name: Adrian Plank

Age: 48

Highest post-secondary education: Educated and trained Union Journeyman Carpenter and tradesman

Website: adrianplank.com

What are your qualifications for serving as a state representative?

I was previously a small business owner who lost the business in the Bush Republican recession of 2008-2010. I understand government policy can help a business thrive and I also understand [how](#) it can destroy small business through my personal experience. I am currently a union journeyman carpenter at local 1925 in Columbia, Missouri. I currently serve as warden and trustee for local 1925. I have worked on coal burning power plants in Missouri that give me a unique perspective on our process to transform our energy needs into clean energy.

What are your top three priorities for this office and how will you accomplish them?

First, campaign finance reform that included publicly funded elections. We must work to eliminate SuperPACs and dark money influence in Missouri policy. Second, I will work to give bargaining leverage to teachers with the ability to strike. Third, we must start to transform our union workforce to green energy careers through union trade schools. I will advocate a working partnership with the state of Missouri to make this transfer to good paying union jobs.

How will you work for all your constituents?

As a candidate for the 47th district in two and now a third election I have a good relationship built with all of the district this includes Columbia, Rocheport, Harrisburg, and now Sturgeon. There is not a candidate who has worked as hard to make a difference in this district than I have, no matter party affiliation. Columbia needs a representative that will help them achieve their clean energy goals. Rocheport needs a wall built to hold back flood waters from entering the community. Harrisburg is concerned about foreign owned turbines from taking their land through eminent domain. Sturgeon is having a hard time retaining teachers. I have spent almost six years talking to constituents about their community's needs.

Democratic Candidate for MO State Rep., District 47 – Chimene Schwach

Name: Chimene Caron Schwach

Age: 52

Highest post-secondary education: MA in Rehabilitation Counseling, New York University; BS Communication Sciences and Disorders, Missouri State University

Website: <https://chimeneschwach.com>

What are your qualifications for serving as a state representative?

I am an experienced leader, community advocate, and volunteer. My local work includes:

- 1) **Boone County Judicial Law Enforcement Task Force** since 2016, working to create a plan to maximize the effective long-term use of the Boone County Jail, the Courthouse and the Sheriffs Office, while meeting the needs of Boone County for continued, quality law enforcement and a balanced budget;
- 2) **4th Ward Committeeperson & 46th Legislative District Chair** for Boone County Democratic Central Committee;
- 3) **Planned Parenthood** and **Pro-Choice Missouri Volunteer Team Leader** for the past 10+ years leading advocates testifying at the legislature on reproductive justice issues affecting women, LGBTQIA+ folks
- 5) **Moms Demand Action Volunteer** working on common sense gun laws, safety and security

My State work includes:

- 1) **Vice President of the Board of Directors for the Missouri Family Health Council**, an NGO that handles all federal family planning (Title X) funds and programming for the state of Missouri.
- 2) **Kids Win Missouri Coalition**, a non-partisan coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to improving the well-being of Missouri children

Professionally, I have already worked serving the people of the 47th District in the field of social work and community outreach for organizations such as CASA as a Boone County Advocate Supervisor in the 13th Judicial Circuit; Ragtag Film Society as Manager for Community Partnerships and Education; and Our Lady of Lourdes Interparish School as Director of AfterSchool Care.

What are your top three priorities for this office and how will you accomplish them?

I recognize the importance of partnership and alliance in effecting common sense public policy that lifts us all up which is why I am committed to collaboration in all aspects of the legislature.

- 1) **Health and Mental Health Policy** - increasing access to family planning; supporting LGBTQIA+ protections, fighting for bodily autonomy and choice, improving infant and maternal health outcomes, reducing barriers to care.
- 2) **Safety and Security** - Strengthening **common sense gun laws**, fully funding public education, supporting local control of education, and protecting the right to vote
- 3) **Economic Stability** - supporting **livable** wages, increasing benefits such as family leave, protecting collective bargaining, advocating for affordable housing, and supporting sustainable practices for farmers and local businesses.

How will you work for all your constituents?

My work at the local and state level in various organizations has given me experience that makes me uniquely prepared to work for the people of the 47th. I have a proven track record of working effectively across party lines at both the local and state level. And my door is open to all. I will hold open office hours and am available by phone if anyone is unable to attend. I am ready to represent ALL of the 47th.

Candidate for Columbia City Council, Ward 3 - Karl Skala

Qualifications: I am a Marine Corps Veteran, husband, father of three, grandfather of two, four-term Third Ward City Councilman and Columbia's Mayor Pro Tem. I have lived in Columbia for 42 years. I retired from the University of Missouri after a career in cross-disciplinary behavioral and biomedical research. I am past Vice-Chair and 7-year member of the Columbia Planning and Zoning Commission, and past Chair and 13-year member of the Columbia/Boone County Environment and Energy Commission. I am also a 12-year member of Columbia Chamber of Commerce and its Government Affairs Committee and represent the City of Columbia on several panels for the National League of Cities. For more information please go to <https://skalaforcouncil.org/>.

Website/Facebook page for candidate: <https://skalaforcouncil.org/>

Questions and Answers:

What do you understand as the role of the city council? What qualifies you for this role? The City Council's role is to represent constituents, to establish policy and to legislate. Council members keep in touch with the needs and desires of their districts' residents and bring that awareness to decision-making about the city's policies, ordinances and budget. City Council members are not directly involved in the implementation of city policies—that is the job of the City Manager and staff—but they serve as a conduit of information between their constituents and the City Manager. The Council also hires and oversees the City Manager, City Clerk, and Municipal Judge. I have extensive experience on the council and have worked with 5 city managers to improve city services, especially in the 3rd Ward. I understand the need for the Council to cultivate city-wide representative consensus and develop unselfish compromises to reach equitable community solutions.

Most pressing issues and how do you think they should be addressed? Public Safety, Affordable Housing and Climate Change. **Public Safety:** continue to implement previous recommendations to approach violence as a public health issue and coordinate job training programs, and follow through on the Council's priorities for spending \$12.5 million in federal ARPA funding: 1) a resource center for homelessness and housing insecurity; 2) a rapid access center to provide 24/7 mental health resources; 3) a process to combat community violence; and 4) barrier-free workforce development programs. Since I was first elected to the City Council, police personnel have increased by 18% and fire personnel by 13%. I will continue to support public safety recruitment efforts. **Affordable Housing:** continue to work with and fund nonprofits and the Columbia Housing Authority; advocate for incentive-based inclusionary zoning to encourage developers to include affordable housing; re-evaluate zoning regulations for lot sizes and accessory dwelling units to cut housing costs. **Climate Change:** Continue to support and endorse the work of the Columbia Environment and Climate Commission and its Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP). Advocate for advancing the city's target date for 100% renewable energy to 2030.

Priorities and how would you go about advancing them as part of the city council?

Public Safety: add more officers and officer training to enhance our community policing vision; provide for "violence de-escalation personnel" and enhanced mental health interventions; provide funding for an additional fire station. **Roads, Sidewalks, and Streetlights:** continue to advocate for a fair share of city funding for 3rd Ward roads, sidewalks, parks, and trails; enhance energy efficient street lighting as an inexpensive neighborhood security solution. **Implement neighborhood protections** outlined in the city's "Columbia Imagined" plan and Unified Development Code (UDC); create and fund the Department of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Candidate for Columbia City Council Ward 3 – Roy Lovelady

Name: Roy Lovelady

Qualifications:

Website/Facebook page for candidate: <https://www.facebook.com/lovelady4council>

Questions and Answers:

What do you understand as the role of the city council? What qualifies you for this role? I'll give the basic answer: the city council's role is to communicate with the citizens of its ward as well as outside its ward, to make decisions on the budget and create policies and ordinances. To give an opinion during work session and help everyone achieve a better way of life for all.

What do you see as the two or three most pressing issues facing the city council in the future? How do you think those issues should be addressed?

Trash . This will take small steps. 1 let the trash in all bags be picked up for now but still having to call about large pick up items, knowing the petition was submitted allowing it to get to ballot and be voted on by the citizens and then implement what they voted on, which I see as a hybrid mode of pay as you throw and roll carts. yes it will cost as the city will have to buy new trucks but if the system is effective it will be worth it.

Communication. Because communication throughout the city from an outside perspective seems to not be working. Things aren't getting done as fast as they can. the process for me to talk to a city work is as follows contact city staff, they as approval from city manager he either say yes or no then contact established then cc everyone it pertains to on email, While I understand keeping track that a tedious process. Another form of communication problem in my opinion is from the city to its citizens, important info goes in 1 of 3 locations: facebook, city website, and newsletter that comes with your bill. if you are not following facebook you miss it, website is difficult to navigate and when my bill comes it's my main focus. My goal would be reaching all and in a timely manner.

Safety and crime. Crime is a public health issue, and people who lack resources create the most crime statistics say. Well, Columbia has definitely had its fair share of crime lately from shootings, drugs, robbing, car break ins, etc. We should be looking at the data and seeing how we can correct the problem throughout the city, not just downtown. We need sidewalks for safer neighborhoods, we need better parks to give children and families safer places to attend, we need resource centers and community centers. Columbia is a wealthy city with lots of resources but there are lots of obstacles in their way that make it harder to receive help. We have to start with some small thing to fix the bigger picture. If nothing changes then nothing changes.

What would be your priorities and how would you go about advancing these priorities as part of the city council?

My priorities would be listening to the people and pressing the issues forward that directly affect my ward and the city as a whole. I'd plan to do so by keeping in contact with citizens, office hours, newsletters, email appearances being boots on the ground and community driven as I already am.